

drawings, specification, and claim 2 in light of the examiner's objections. A red line sketch of a proposed drawing correction is enclosed.

Claim rejection under 35 USC §102.

The office action rejects claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,163,087 (Kaplan). Applicants have carefully reviewed Kaplan and respectfully traverse the rejection because claim 1 includes the following limitations not taught or suggested Kaplan:

- before validating the call, determining if the call is a type of call that requires validation;
- if the call does not require validation, then processing the called number; and
- if the call requires validation, then entering a validation database with the caller number before further processing of the called number.

Kaplan teaches a translation process, but does not teach or suggest the validation process of claim 1. The examiner apparently confuses the validation process of claim 1 with the translation process of Kaplan.

The translation process of Kaplan is a conversion of a calling party's number into a customer data base key that includes information about the calling party. (See Kaplan Col. 3, lines 44-48). The validation process of claim 1 is a check to see if the calling party should be allowed to complete the call. (See application page 24, lines 5-12). Currently validation is typically performed on all calls. The validation process of claim 1 represents a distinct advancement of the art because it eliminates the time consuming validation look up for a significant number of calls.

Claim rejection under 35 USC §103

The office action rejects claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 5,510,77 (Pilc) in view of Kaplan. Claim 2 includes the following limitations not taught or suggested by Pilc and Kaplan:

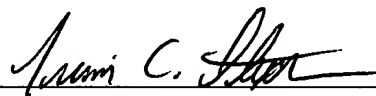
- if the called number is an "800" type number, then entering an "800" type number database with the called number before entering a validation database with the caller number; and
- if the called number is not an "800" type number, then entering a validation database with the caller number before further processing of the called number.

Kaplan teaches a translation process, but does not teach or suggest the validation process of claim 1. Pilc teaches prompting a caller for additional security information if additional security is necessary, but does not teach the validation process of claim 2, namely the exemption of "800" type numbers from validation and the validation of non "800" type numbers.

The undersigned attorney requests a Notice of Allowance in this application in light of the arguments set forth herein. The undersigned attorney requests Examiner Wolinsky to telephone if a conversation could expedite prosecution. Applicants authorize the Commissioner to charge any additionally required payment of fees to deposit account #21-0765.

Respectfully submitted,

DUFT, GRAZIANO & FOREST, P.C.

By: 
Travis C. Stephenson
Reg. No. 45,132
1790 - 30th Street, Suite 140
Boulder, CO 80301
Tel: 303-449-9497
Fax: 303-449-0814